

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Information as at the end of financial year 1991-92 is not available as the accounts for the period are not yet finalised.

(c) to (e). Foreign debt is being repaid on due dates according to the terms and conditions of each loan. The Government will ensure that this burden does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loans. The Government have already introduced a programme of economic reforms aimed at short-term stabilisation combined with longer terms restructuring. These reforms would improve the economics condition of the country and revitalise our growth process including our export earning capacity so as to enhance our capacity to repay the loans.

[English]

Development of National Highways in West Bengal

1734. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal for the development of National Highways in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). 45 numbers of estimates for Road/Bridge Projects on national Highways in West Bengal have been received from the Govern-

ment of West Bengal during the current financial year. Out of these, 24 numbers costing Rs. 2097.24 lacs have been sanctioned. 10 numbers costing Rs. 135.17 lacs are under sanction, 3 numbers costing Rs. 1452.47 lacs have been returned due to various reasons and 8 numbers costing Rs. 2429.60 lacs are under various stages of examination in consultation with the State Public Works Department.

Tea Exports

1735. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of tea exported to the erstwhile USSR in the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the countries to which tea is exported in bulk quantities; and

(c) the prospect of tea exports during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Exports of tea from India to USSR during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 (April-January) were as follows:-

(Qty : M. Kgs.)

| Year | Quantity |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1989-90 | 121.87 |
| 1990-91 | 112.85 |
| 1991-92 (April-January) | 102.04* |

*Estimated

(b) UK, Iran, ARE, Poland, Saudi-Arabia, Irish, Republic, Netherlands, Germany, Yugoslavia, USA, UAE, Morocco, Japan,